

7-12-03 72

### AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 11-18, 20-21, 23-24, 27-28, and 34, as follows. The amendment follows the revised format as permitted by the USPTO for 37 CFR 1.121 in the Office of Patent Legal Administration Pre-OG Notices, Amendments in a Revised Format Now Permitted, Dated January 31, 2003.

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1. (Currently Amended) An electronic device comprising:  
a housing having at least one outside edge;  
at least one touchpad disposed along at least a portion of the at least one outside edge of the housing; and  
a user input detector, electrically coupled to the at least one touchpad, for detecting user input from the at least one touchpad disposed along at least a portion of the outside edge of the housing.
  2. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of claim 1, wherein the at least one touchpad extends substantially about a perimeter of the housing along the at least one outside edge of the housing.
  3. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of claim 2, wherein the perimeter of the housing is rounded.
  4. (Original) The electronic device of claim 1, wherein the user input detector comprises capacitive sensing technology for detecting user input.

5. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of claim 1, wherein the at least one touchpad comprises at least one of a distinctive shape and texture, for providing a tactile feedback to the user.

6. (Original) The electronic device of claim 1, wherein the housing comprises at least one of: a keyboard, a computer, and a display.

7. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of claim 1, wherein a sliding contact with the at least one touchpad causes an adjustment of a variable.

8. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of claim 1, wherein the ~~electronic device~~ housing has at least one outside corner edge and the at least one touchpad is disposed about the at least one outside corner edge of the housing.

9. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of claim 8, wherein the outside corner edge of the housing is rounded.

10. (Original) The electronic device of claim 1, wherein the housing comprises a display having a display screen.

11. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of claim 10, wherein the at least one outside edge of the housing is located about at least one edge of the display, and the at least one touchpad is disposed along at least a portion of the at least one edge of the display.

12. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of claim 10, further comprising a primary input device for controlling a pointer in the display, wherein the at least one touchpad serves as a secondary input device for controlling at least one of the following: scrolling, zooming, three-dimensional manipulation, slider control, and adjusting a variable.

13. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of claim 10, wherein a sliding contact with the at least one touchpad causes at least one of the following manipulations of objects displayed on the display screen: scrolling, zooming, three-dimensional manipulation, pointer movement, slider control, and adjustment of a variable.

14. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of claim 10, wherein a sliding contact with the at least one touchpad along one outside edge provides one dimensional control of objects displayed on the display screen.

15. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of claim 10, wherein a plurality of touchpads are disposed along at least a portion of a plurality of outside edges of the housing and each touchpad controls movement in one of at least two different one-dimensional axes, whereby user input provided along a the plurality of touchpads provides multi-dimensional manipulation of objects displayed on the display screen.

16. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of claim 15, wherein two touchpads are disposed along at least a portion of two outside edges of the housing and each of the two touchpads touchpad controls movement in one of two different one-dimensional axes, whereby user input provided along the two touchpads provides multi-dimensional manipulation of objects displayed on the display screen.

17. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of claim 15, wherein the multi-dimensional manipulation of objects comprises two-dimensional manipulation of objects displayed on the display screen.

18. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of claim 15, wherein the multi-dimensional manipulation of objects comprises three-dimensional manipulation of objects displayed on the display screen.

19. (Original) A method comprising the steps of:  
touching about the outside edge of a housing;  
detecting the touching; and  
transmitting an electrical signal upon detecting the touching to a control circuit,  
wherein the control circuit acts upon the electrical signal.
20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the step of touching  
is substantially about a perimeter along the outside edge of the housing.
21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the step of touching  
comprises sliding along the outside edge of the housing.
22. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising the steps of:  
transmitting an output signal from the control circuit to a graphical display; and  
navigating within the display in accordance with the output signal.
23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the housing  
comprises at least two different outside edges and the step of touching comprises using  
two hands to provide dual sliding contacts along the at least two different outside edges.
24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the step of touching  
comprises using tactile feel to position at least one finger ~~the fingers~~ along the outside  
edge of the housing.

25. (Original) A touchpad input device comprising:  
a touchpad disposed along at least a portion of at least one outside edge of a housing;  
a user input detector, electrically coupled to the touchpad, for detecting user input from the touchpad and transmitting input signals; and  
a control circuit electrically coupled to the user input detector; wherein the control circuit acts upon the input signals from the user input detector.

26. (Original) The touchpad input device of claim 25, further comprising a display electrically coupled to the control circuit wherein the control circuit transmits output signals to the display.

27. (Currently Amended) The touchpad input device of claim 26, wherein the display is within the housing and the at least one outside edge of the housing is located about at least one edge of the display, and the touchpad is disposed along at least a portion of the at least one edge of the display.

28. (Currently Amended) The touchpad input device of claim 25, wherein the touchpad extends substantially about a perimeter of the housing along the at least one outside edge of the housing.

29. (Original) The touchpad input device of claim 25 wherein the user input detector comprises capacitive sensing technology for detecting user input.

30. (Original) The touchpad input device of claim 25 wherein the touchpad comprises at least one of a distinctive shape and texture, for providing a tactile feedback to the user.

31. (Original) The touchpad input device of claim 25, further comprising an analog-to-digital converter electrically coupled between the user input detector and the control circuit for converting electrical signals into digital information readable by the control circuit.

32. (Original) The touchpad input device of claim 25, further comprising a threshold comparator electrically coupled between the user input detector and the control circuit.

33. (Original) The touchpad input device of claim 25, further comprising an electric signal amplifier electrically coupled between the user input detector and the control circuit.

34. (Currently Amended) The touchpad input device of claim 25, wherein the touchpad comprises a touchpad strip disposed along at least a portion of at least one outside edge of the housing for detecting user input along the touchpad strip.